(c) The exploration programme envisaged by ONGC in Krishna-Godavari Basin during 1987-88 is as follows:

	On land	*Offshore*
Seismic Survey	1,610 SLK	3,500 LK
Explor. tory Wells	7	2

Vacancies in Guwahati High Court

1706. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the vacancies of Judges in the Guwahati High Court have since been filled up and if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) whether the Government of Assam has approached the Central Government for the increase in the number of Judges in the Guwahati High Court; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Guwahati High Court has a sanctioned strength of 10 permanent Judges. At present, 8 permanent Judges are in position, leaving 2 vacancies to be filled up.

(b) and (c) The State authorities of North-Eastern region proposed that the Judge strength of the Guwahati High Court be increased to provide for establishment of permanent Benches of the High Court in the States. The proposal is engaging the earnest attention of the Government of India.

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12 NOON

HOMAGE TO MARTYRS OF FREEDOM STRUGGLE ON THE OCCASION OF FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF 'QUIT INDIA' MOVEMENT

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Madam . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Before you raise it, I will read this. Hon'ble Members, yesterday our House was not in Session, but it was a very historic and momentous day of the freedom struggle of our country. It was on this day that Mahatma Gandhi had given the call of 'Quit India' to the British Government from the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Bombay.

This day is being relived throughout the country and we are renewing our pledge. The Quit India Movement launched on that day was the last one which culminated in our achieving Independence, five years later. This day is, therefore, a day of thanks-giving and dedication to pay our humble and respectful homage to all those martyrs who gave their lives for the cause of Independence and to all those who have suffered in this national cause. Their struggle and sacrifice for liberating Mother India from the foreign yoke will ever be remembered. We can pay no better tribute to all those who laid down their lives for the country than to re-affirm our commitment to uphold the sovereignty, integrity and unity of our country and economic well-being of our people in the best traditions of this great land.

I would request the Members to rise in their places and observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of martyrs and freedom fighters.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

SHRI K. MOHANAN (Kerala): Madam, you are creating a precedent.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): Are you objecting to this?

SHRI K. MOHANAN: First we wanted. . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Are you objecting to the paying of homage?

(Interruptions)